

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Original) A windscreen wiper device (1) comprising an elastic, elongated carrier element, as well as an elongated wiper blade (2) of a flexible material, which can be placed in abutment with a windscreen to be wiped, which wiper blade (2) includes opposing longitudinal grooves (3) on its longitudinal sides, in which grooves spaced-element are disposed, wherein neighbouring ends of said longitudinal strips (4) are interconnected by a respective connecting piece (6), which windscreen wiper device (1) comprises a connecting device (7) for an oscillating wiper arm (8), wherein said oscillating arm is pivotally connected to said connecting device (7) about a pivot axis near one end, characterized in that said connecting device (7) comprises engaging members (9) being welded to longitudinal sides (10) of said longitudinal strips (4) that face away from each other in such a manner as to withstand shearing forces in a direction along said longitudinal strips (4).

2. (Original) A windscreen wiper device according to claim 1, wherein said engaging members (9) are welded to said longitudinal sides (10) through an ultrasonic welding operation.

3. (Currently Amended) A windscreen wiper device according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said connecting device (7) and said engaging members (9) are made in one piece.

4. (Currently Amended) A windscreen wiper device according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the end of the oscillating wiper arm (8) includes two at least substantially cylindrical protrusions (11), which form bearing surfaces, at the location of the pivot pin, which protrusions extend in lateral direction with respect to the oscillating wiper arm (8).

5. (Currently Amended) A windscreen wiper device according to claim 1, 2 ~~or 3~~, wherein the end of the oscillating wiper arm (8) has an at least substantially U-shaped cross-section, said connecting device (7) being partially positioned within said end of the oscillating arm (8), and wherein the end of the oscillating arm (8) is provided, at the location of the pivot axis, with a shaft extending between the legs of the U-shaped cross-section, said shaft pivotally engaging in said connecting device (7).

6. (Currently Amended) A windscreen wiper device according to claim 4 ~~or~~ 5, wherein said protrusions (11)/said shaft can be pivotally mounted in (a) correspondingly shaped recess(es) (12) in the connecting device (7).

7. (Original) A windscreen wiper device according to claim 6, wherein said protrusions (11)/said shaft can be snapped into said recess(es) (12).

8. (Original) A windscreen wiper device according to claim 6, wherein said protrusions (11)/said shaft are/is dimensioned such that they/it can be passed through (an) insertion opening(s) (13) of the recess(es) (12) from an at least substantially perpendicular position of the oscillating arm (8) with respect to the wiper blade (2), and be locked in position in said recess(es) (12) from an at least substantially parallel position of the oscillating wiper arm (8) with respect to the wiper blade (2).

9. (Currently Amended) A windscreen wiper device according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims 1-8~~, wherein said connecting pieces (6) are clamping members, which form separate constructional elements.

10. (Original) A windscreen wiper device according to claim 9, wherein said connecting pieces (6) are form-locked or force-locked to the adjacent ends of said longitudinal strips (4).

11. (Currently Amended) A windscreen wiper device according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims 1-8~~, wherein said connecting pieces (6) are in one piece with said longitudinal strips (4).

12. (Currently Amended) A windscreen wiper device according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims 1-11~~, wherein at least said longitudinal strips (4) are made of spring band material.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a windscreen wiper device ~~according to any one of the preceding claims 1-9~~, wherein opposing longitudinal grooves (3) are formed in the longitudinal sides of the elongated wiper blade (2) of a flexible material, which can be placed in abutment with a windscreen to be wiped, in which grooves longitudinal strips (4) of a carrier element are subsequently fitted in spaced-apart relationship, wherein neighbouring ends of said longitudinal strips (4) are interconnected by a respective connecting piece (6), wherein an oscillating arm (8) is pivotally connected to a connecting device (7) of the windscreen wiper device (1) about a pivot axis near one end thereof, characterized in that said connecting device (7) is fitted with engaging members (9), which are welded to longitudinal sides (10) of said longitudinal strips (4) that face away from each other in such a manner as to withstand shearing forces in a direction along said longitudinal strips (4).